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M. K. Govt. Salaries Commons Quorities

London, Feb. 24.

Mr. Ivor Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary for the Colonies, replying to an inquiry whether a commission would be appointed to inquire into the adequacy of salaries paid to Government servants in Hongkong, said the Colonial Secretary had agreed to the appointment of a salaries commission whose composition would be announced as soon as possible.

Mr. Thomas made no specific reply to the second part of the question—by Colonel Rees Williams (Lab.)—asking how such salaries compared with the remuneration received by persons employed by professional and commercial firms in Hongkong.

Replying to another question by Colonel Rees Williams, Mr. Thomas said the appointment to Hongkong Service of an officer with trade union experience in this country had been approved and the Colonial Secretary hoped that a suitable candidate would be selected shortly.—Reuter.

NAZI ROUND-UP 80 PER CENT OF GANG ARRESTED

Herford, Westphalia, Feb. 24.

More than 80 per cent of the leaders of the German subversive movement plotting the revival of Nazism, have so far been arrested in "Operation Selection Board," according to a high British Intelligence officer to-night.

He declared the organisation, which planned to blackmail the Allies with threats of germ warfare, existed as an immediately effective force and would have made demands to the Allies this year.

The round-up of conspirators is still continuing and Intelligence officers have great hopes of arresting the remaining 20 per cent.

Indications that the movement had begun to put "feelers" out to political and other organisations, were said to be coming to light. There was no evidence yet that any of the present German political leaders were connected with the plot.

NOT WORRIED

It was stated that neither Britain nor America were greatly worried over the reports that the organisation possessed a secret weapon and it was impossible to say, far, whether it was just an idle threat.

Among the conspirators captured in the British zone were, Water Teich, a Lieutenant Colonel of the SS and former SS leader in the Baltic countries; Edmund Beidelmeier, the former executive head of the German Secret Service in the Polish city of Lublin.

A mixed stock of arms has been found in the house of one of the arrested leaders.

"We know they have been studying all sorts of devilment and it is a fair presumption that it may be concerned in some way with bacteriological warfare," a British Intelligence officer said.

ORIGINATED IN 1945

No arrest has yet been made in Berlin, possibly because the organisation would have had difficulty in communicating with the western zones.

Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Chu Teh Declares War

GENERAL Chu Teh may, or may not be right, when he says that all-out war has started between the Chinese Communists and the Kuomintang. In these days when propaganda so often gives way to facts, "all-out war" can be regarded as a relative phrase. Nevertheless, if his interview with the United Press has any meaning, it is that General Chu Teh has declared his willingness to fight it out with the Nationalists. This too, again, may be bravado, though most unlikely, because the Communists, despite being commensurately ill-equipped, have proved themselves to be good fighters. They are specialists in the guerrilla type of warfare—pinpricking, annoying, and exhausting to the opposition. But in itself, sufficient importance to decide a war, it has not yet won a battle of sufficient importance to decide a war.

General Chu, somewhat naively admits his military weakness by declaring that his strategy is to "sap the vital strength of the enemy," which means, that he does not appear to be in a position to carry the war to the enemy's camp and force a decision. The real importance of General Chu Teh's interview is that it restates, in fighting words, the inability (and apparently the unwillingness) of the Communists and Nationalists to find a common ground whereby the nation as a whole can be given the chance of revival. For this is what China must have if she is to prove herself to be one of the five great powers. The lesson that is slowly—much too slowly—being driven home to the Chinese, is that their destinies are being shaped by refractory extremists, far more eager to point to military and political triumphs than to display statesmanship that will bring peace and happiness to the country. The true test for the Communists and the Kuomintang is not which side can most successfully wage civil war, but whether either, or both can subjugate their mania for ruthless domination and bring to the country a state of peace and progress.

MORE POWER TO BE RESTORED

Switch On Monday For NW England

London, Feb. 24.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, told the House of Commons to-day that power would be restored to industries in the Northwest area next Monday, following restoration of power to Midland industries this morning.

Mr. Attlee said it was still too soon to decide when power could be returned to industries in the Southeast area where stocks had reached the level of 15 days' supply last night.

He said London power station had 13 days' reserve supplies but difficulties were still being met in increasing the amount.

The position on gas restrictions was still under review and the utmost economy was needed to prevent restrictions paralleling the electricity cuts, the Premier revealed.

Earlier, it had been expected he would announce gas cuts to-day.

Mr. Attlee emphasised that weather conditions still dominated the fuel position and since his last statement new blizzards and fog had endangered fuel transport. However, intensive efforts from transport workers had succeeded in improving power stocks, he said.

ECONOMY URGED

The Premier said that power in the remaining two industrial areas could be restored only if domestic and non-industrial consumers exerted the utmost economy.

Transport workers, Mr. Attlee said, "I am glad to report that so far there has been no serious interruption in the flow of coal from the coal fields to power stations."

To domestic and non-essential industrial consumers, he said, "Although initial response to the government appeal for economy has been excellent, there has lately been an increase in consumption, which gives rise to some anxiety."

Mr. Anthony Eden, leading the Opposition, pressed Mr. Attlee for a date on the restoration of full power.

Mr. Attlee said it was impossible to set a date, particularly because of to-day's fog together with other conditions. He told Mr. Eden he would make a statement on power resumption in London as soon as possible.

Mr. Attlee said he was unable to give a guarantee of no gas cuts because of the weather's uncertainty.—United Press.

SWEETS RATION CUT

London, Feb. 24.

Britain's candy ration will be cut in half for the next four weeks, beginning March 2, Dr. Edith Summerskill, Parliamentary Secretary to the Food Ministry, announced to-day in the House of Commons.

The fuel restrictions, which have limited the manufacture of chocolates and confectionery of all kinds, have made this necessary, she said.

Since October the ration has been four ounces of candy per person per week.

It will be two ounces for each of the four weeks beginning March 2.

For the next four weeks it will probably be three ounces, and after that it was hoped that the ration would be restored, Dr. Summerskill said.

The sugar, which would ordinarily have gone into the manufacture of candy will not be made available to domestic consumers because it has already been issued to the manufacturers, who will add it to their stocks.—Reuter.

Posed As Man And Wife: Allegedly Robbed Hotels

A self-described London newspaperman and his beautiful blonde girl-friend were charged to-day with posing as man and wife in English hotels from which they disappeared after allegedly looting the premises.

Officer's Kit Searched

London, Feb. 24.

"Leakages of secret military information which became the basis of articles in the Communist press," was the reason given in the House of Commons to-day for the searching of the kit of Captain M. B. Jones, RA, India Command, last month.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, the Under Secretary for India, who stated this was replying to Mr. Tom Driberg, (Lab.) who had asked if he was aware that "at 6 a.m. on January 14 an officer of military intelligence who had travelled specially from Calcutta and returned there the same day, searched the kit of Captain Jones, against whom no offence is alleged, read all his personal letters, perused his books and removed private property, including eleven letters, a photograph, a used cheque book and a ballet programme, and what purpose was served by this expenditure of public money."

Mr. Henderson added that the adjutant of the unit was present throughout the interview and the officer, on being invited to show papers in his possession, agreed to do so. Any expenditure incurred would fall on the Government of India.—Reuter.

Italian Peasants Demonstrate

Rome, Feb. 24.

An estimated 2,000 peasant men and women to-day converged on Rome in trucks from surrounding hill towns to demonstrate for agrarian reform, bread and work.

The crowd, from villages bombed during the war and who voted Communist in the administrative elections last autumn, tried to reach the government headquarters guarded by Carabinieri and jeep riding police.

They carried banners inscribed "We want uncultivated land," "We want big farms and big estates," and "We want work and bread."—United Press.

FOUR CHILDREN PERISH IN FIRE

Anderson, Indiana, Feb. 24.

Four small children, members of the family of a Chinese restaurant owner, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home.

Harry Chan, aged 35, and Foon Chan, aged 55, father and grandfather of the children, were seriously burned and taken to hospital. Harry, Jr., aged seven, Senja Lee, six, Buck Ming, five and Soon Ling three, died. The cause of the fire was not known.—Associated Press.

ADMIRAL BOYD DUE AT KURE

Kure, Japan, Feb. 25.

Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet, is due to arrive here to-day aboard his flagship, HMS Belfast.—Associated Press.



Believe it or not—this scene comes neither from Alaska, Canada, the Yukon nor the Antarctic. It's a snowed-in railway line near Hanfield, England, during the current ice-bill. Hundreds of men were used to clear tunnels and sunken rail-beds to restore lines of communication, enabling coal to be distributed to fuelless Britain.

A RIPLEY PICTURE

Duchess To Sell Art Treasures

London, Feb. 24.

Art connoisseurs from all over the world are expected to crowd the sales rooms of Christie's in London early in March to bid for the large and famous royal collection of art treasures which the Duchess of Kent is selling.

Practically the whole of the collection was made during his lifetime by the late Duke of Kent, the youngest brother of King George V. It consists of over 600 pieces, including famous and valuable paintings, silver, ancient Chinese porcelain, and rare examples of English and French furniture.

The late Duke was a noted art connoisseur, a taste which he inherited from his mother, Queen Mary. His agents attended all the great art sales over the past 20 years, and in addition he received as presents or inherited some of the choicest pieces of Queen Victoria's private collection.

"BLITZ" PURCHASE

This collection includes 67 pictures and drawings by famous artists, the most outstanding being a classical group of pictures by Claude de Lorraine. Three of these Claudes sold in 1894 for a total of 11,500 guineas, which the Duke of Kent acquired in 1940 for only 3,700 guineas, when the collection of Captain Robert Brassey was sold. It was in the days of the London "blitz" and many buyers kept away from the sale.

The silver includes 84 lots, including two highly vase-shaped wine-coolers made in 1808 and weighing over 367 ounces. There is a pair of decorative silver-gilt candleabra by John Carter the famous silversmith dated 1771, weighing over 125 ounces.

The main portion of the art collection is that embracing the English and French furniture and the beautiful porcelain.

These items number 374 lots. The English furniture includes the finest examples of Chippendale, Queen Anne and other 18th century pieces, whole sets of graceful chairs and tables of the finest craftsmanship. Among the French examples is an exquisite Louis XV toilet table once the prized possession of that famous connoisseur Alfred de Rothschild.

SUPERB PORCELAIN

As for the porcelain, the Chinese pieces are said to be examples of the highest quality. Sales rooms recently have seen remarkable sums paid for Chien Lung figures of Phoenixes. The Kent pair with beautifully enamelled plumage are 15½ inches high. The English porcelain contains many attractive Chelsea and Worcester pieces.

Amongst the finest pieces of china is the collection of Old Dresden including a crinoline group and an equestrian group of Frederick the Great.

The sale of the royal treasures will be dispersed in five sessions between March 12 and March 14.—United Press.

Byrd Transport At Dunedin

London, Feb. 24.

The United States Antarctic expedition's ice-battered transport, Merrick finally reached Port Chalmers, at Dunedin, New Zealand, after being towed 1,500 miles from the Antarctic icepack where it had been severely damaged by drifting floes, the Australian News and Information Bureau announced to-day.

The Merrick suffered a broken rudder staff after colliding with an ice floe 30 feet thick, and she was towed in by an icebreaker, escorted by another transport. The three ships made the trip in 10 days after battling heavy seas and hurricane gales.—United Press.

SOLDIERS BURNED TO DEATH

Reykjavik, Feb. 24.

The United States military authorities announced to-day that four enlisted men at the Army airfield here were killed on Saturday night when their tent burst into flames.

Flames starting from a burst oil pipe and fanned by a high wind demolished the hut, the announcement said. Only two of the 16 men inside were awake, and the blaze travelled too fast for all the men to be warned.—United Press.

Soviet Activities In Korea

'Iron Curtain' Allegations

Washington, Feb. 25.

A broad hint that the Russians are secretly organising and training Korean troops behind an "iron curtain" in northern Korea came from Lieut-Gen Hodge, commander of the United States occupation forces in southern Korea, after a call on President Harry Truman.

Gen Hodge was accompanied to the White House by Secretary of War Patterson.

Secretary of State G. C. Marshall also went in toward the end of the conference.

While Gen Hodge made only a cautious reference to the Soviet activities in the northern zone, Dr. Syngman Rhee, leader of the south Korean Democratic League, said in an interview that the Russians are drilling and equipping 500,000 troops there for incorporation into the Red army. "This development in north Korea is placing Korean nationalists in south Korea under Americans in a very vulnerable position," he said.

"Numerous Koreans in the Russian zone are escaping into the American sector to escape enforced military duty under the Russians. Under the Moscow agreement the Americans are not in a position to train south Koreans. The result is south Korea is left at the mercy of communists in the north."

MACARTHUR CONCERNED

He told the reporters that the Russian activities "are well-known facts" in southern Korea "and I believe have caused Gen MacArthur some concern."

Dr. Rhee is the head of a major civilian political group in south Korea and helped Gen MacArthur in setting up the United States zone.

Gen Hodge told newsmen there appears to be something in the reports that Russians are training Korean troops.

He reported also that efforts to lift the iron curtain in Korea had failed. Asked whether the Soviets are co-operating with the Americans in their joint trusteeship over Korea, he replied "There is no change in their behaviour. It is no more favourable."

Under the Moscow agreement of 1945, the United States and Russia are pledged to administer Korea for as long as five years. Since the liberation of the Koreans from the Japanese after 40 years, the United States has been seeking to establish an all-Korean government and to unify the country with a view toward its eventual independence as guaranteed at Yalta.—Associated Press.

Basic English Nationalised

London, Feb. 25.

Britain has nationalised basic English. Civil appropriations accounts published on Monday showed that C. K. Ogden, inventor of the simplified language, has transferred his copyright to the Crown in consideration of a £23,000 payment.

The Coalition Government decided in 1944 to develop basic English as an auxiliary and administrative language. It uses only about 850 words, compared with more than 414,825 in the current Oxford English dictionary.—Associated Press.

Footballers Fail To Get Wages Claim

Union Defeated By League Clubs

Manchester, Feb. 24.

Practically every claim of the Players Union for increased wages and improved conditions failed at a special meeting of the Football League Clubs here to-day.

In the deliberations, which were surprisingly thrown open to the press and conducted by the light of candles and hurricane lamps because of fuel cut, the clubs voted for the Management Committee proposal on wages, giving players a pound less than the minimum asked for. The new maximum is £11 during the season and £9 in the summer.

The advice of the Management Committee was disregarded on only one point, the clubs deciding not to make the wages increase retrospective to January 1st this year.

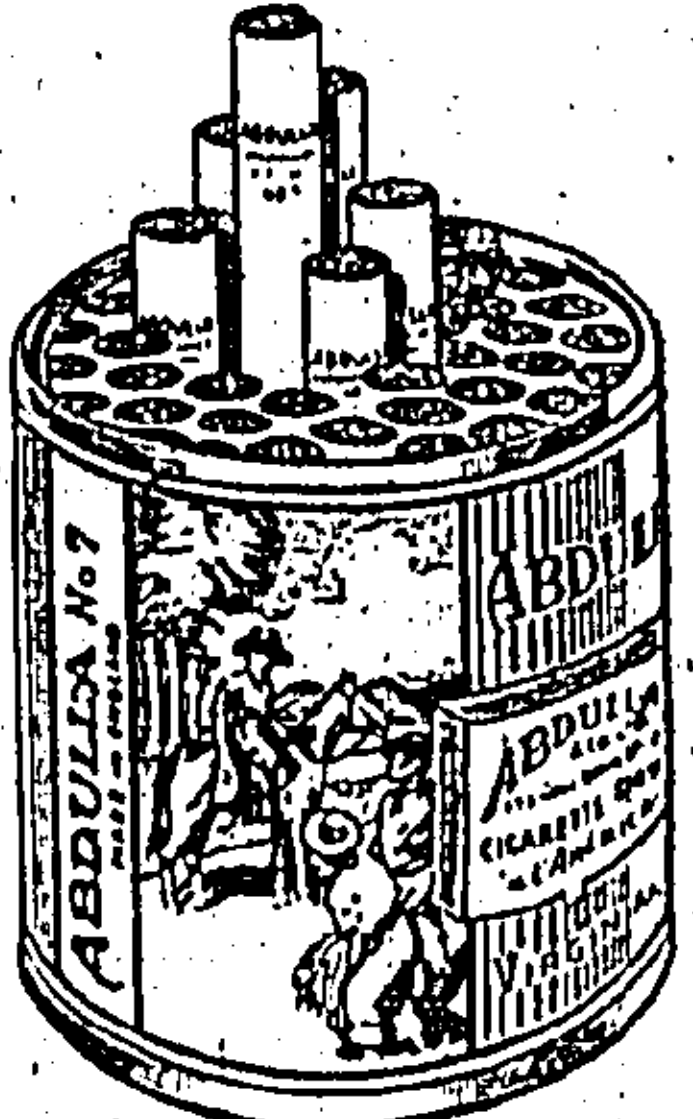
Intimated by the Players Union that they would prefer arbitration by the Minister of Labour to acceptance of the whittled down claims led to the League President, Mr. W.C. Cuff, telling the clubs that the Management Committee reserved the right to challenge arbitration.

The committee, he said, did not recognise that there was a dispute between clubs and players, which could come within the meaning of the Trades Disputes Act.

Mr. James Fay, secretary of the Players Union, commenting on the clubs' wages awards, said that committee.—Continued on Page 4)

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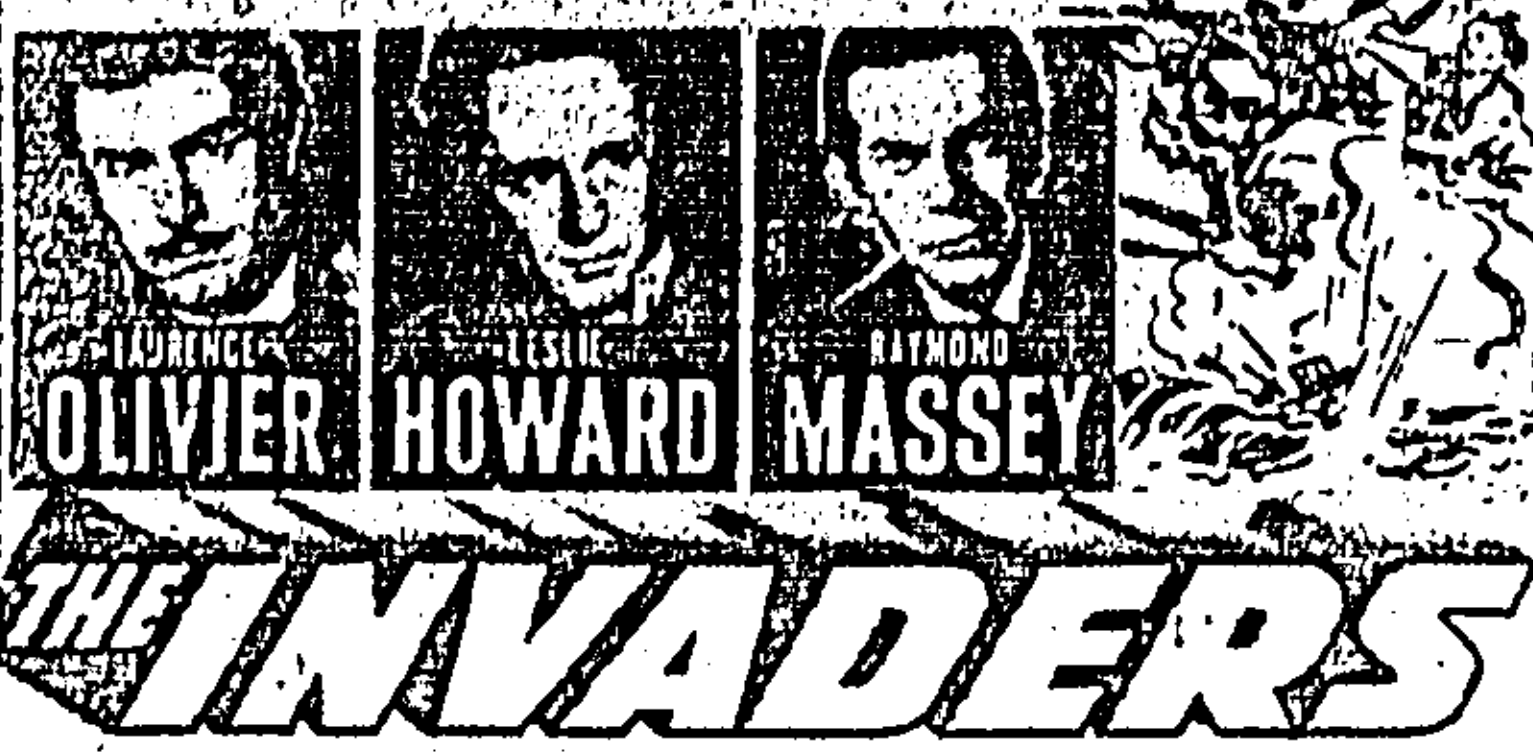
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Saved Australia

ON February 28, HMS Exeter, HMS Encounter and USS Pope headed for Sunda Strait. They were engaged by a strong enemy force and nothing further was heard of them.

HMAS Perth, USS Houston and the Dutch destroyer Evertsen the next morning sought to run the blockade in Sunda Strait. Two Japanese cruisers pounced on the Evertsen and set her on fire with shells and drove her ashore.

From that moonlit tropical night of March, 1942, until October, 1944, no details of the gallant last fight of the Australian cruiser Perth filtered through from any source.

Then, four surviving members of her crew were rescued when a Japanese prisoner-of-war ship was torpedoed by an American submarine in October, 1944. They revealed that nearly half of the cruiser complement of 278 had landed in Java after the sinking. Back in September, 1945, 153 additional members of the Perth crew were liberated from the prison camps in southern Honshu.

These men cleared away the shroud of mystery which for so long had muffled the fate of the cruiser. In Sunda Strait, the Perth was hit by a Japanese destroyer flotilla off the St. Nicholas Point, on the north coast of Java. In brilliant moonlight, the cruiser, which was moving in company with the USS Houston, found herself encircled by enemy destroyers with several heavy and light cruisers in the rear. This Japanese naval force at the time was conveying troop transports for landings on the Java mainland.

Outnumbered and outgunned, the Perth and Houston were caught in a deadly trap. But the men of the Perth fought back doggedly, firing from the forward turrets. Enemy gunfire came from several bearings, and Japanese destroyers passed so close that they could be engaged with machine-guns. Twenty dramatic minutes passed before the Perth was hit. Then her starboard and her starboard pom-pom was shattered. None of the cruiser's guns was knocked out in these first heavy salvos.

"We Were Helpless"

WITH Japanese shells tearing her superstructure to pieces the Perth fought back. Her gunners for more than an hour in a combat as desperate and hopeless as that of Grenville's "Revenge" drove off the destroyers which began to close for "the kill." At least two of them recoiled to direct hits from the cruiser and spouted flame. The Perth gunners believed that they sank them. Two destroyers from the Perth also hit two enemy transports.

Although the 8-inch shells of the Japanese cruisers began to tear the Perth asunder in a flurry of smoke and flame, the gun crews kept firing while a gun would function or while there was a shell to ram into a gun breach.

"Finally, we ran out of ammunition and were helpless to beat off a close-in attack," said one officer survivor. "The Jap destroyers steamed in and put four torpedoes into us, hitting forward amidships and aft. The hull was torn under and the vessel went down inside 15 minutes."

"Those of us who had survived the inferno of the past hour came to the surface, piled on to rafts or grabbed pieces of the floating wreckage and hoped for the best. 'Not far away was the Houston, vomiting smoke and flames. It was a most depressing sight and the red glow in the sky lit up faces drawn and haggard from the horrors of the past hour."

"After time the Houston disappeared in a huge cloud of steam and we were alone."

"Fortunately the sea was calm. When we were able to take stock of ourselves we found we had neither food nor water. Twenty of us were crowded on the small raft on which I had managed to scramble."

11 Hours in Water

ALTHOUGH there were many Jap ships in the vicinity they picked up only one man. He drifted with survivors drifting helplessly.

"Taking it in turn, we paddled frantically, hoping to make for an island, but the current was strong that we drifted past it."

"We were at the mercy of the breeze and currents until daylight. Then we were able to get our bearings and endeavour to make for the shore. We could see the coast of Java quite clearly, but we had little hope of being able to make it, so strong were the tides."

"All was a scene of utter desolation as we began to drift down Sunda Strait. 'About 9 a.m. a Japanese destroyer steamed in amongst us and took us aboard, where they gave us such attention as they could. The wounded received rough first-aid treatment. Later we were

put ashore at Java. There were 200 in our party. The remainder made their way ashore themselves. 'I was in the water for 11 hours," said Petty Officer C. B. Thomson. "Most of us were covered in oil. When the sun rose this oiled on our skins, and our faces and bodies were burnt badly and swelled. A Japanese destroyer picked up some survivors."

"The providential appearance of an empty steel lifeboat probably

This is the second and concluding instalment of an authentic account, by HUGH BUGGY, of how the outnumbered and hard-pressed Allied forces made the Japs pay dearly, both at sea and on land, for their incursion into Indonesia in 1942.

saved many of us. It came from a merchant ship, and was complete with sails. In this about 26 of us reached an island. Then others were washed up, until there were about 40 of us.

"The natives fled at first, but returned. Their chieftain ordered us off the island, and demanded compensation for sheep, which we had killed. When we reached Java, the natives handed us over to the Japs."

Four days after the last gallant fight of the Perth, the little sloop, HMAS Yarra, went down in an equally meritorious combat against two Japanese 8-inch gun cruisers. In the closing hours of the Singapore drama, the Yarra had rescued 1,804 men from the giant liner Empress of Asia, which was set ablaze by concentrated enemy air attack.

On February 27, 1942, a convoy of six vessels led by the Yarra, an Australian mine-sweeper and a sloop of the Royal Indian Navy left Batavia for Tjilatjap. They beat off a submarine attack on the way, and as they approached Tjilatjap on March 2 they were ordered to proceed to the Australian coast.

At dawn, on March 4, the convoy was attacked by a force of three Japanese heavy cruisers and four destroyers. Three 4-inch guns of the Yarra and one 4-inch gun of one of the merchant ships were the sole armament with which the convoy could oppose the enemy. The Yarra put down a smoke screen and ordered the convoy to scatter.

Gallant Yarra

AGAINST such a weight and power of fire the light could not be but short-lived. Two of the enemy cruisers concentrated their fire on the convoy. The Yarra's guns kept firing for 20 minutes till she was disabled by shellfire, but she did not sink until two and a half hours after the action opened. The entire convoy was destroyed. An official Navy version declares that the Yarra put up a gallant fight comparable with that of the HMS Jervis Bay when she and her convoy were attacked by a German battleship in the Atlantic in 1940.

The commanding officer of the Yarra, Lieutenant Commander R. W. Rabin, and all but thirteen members of the crew were lost. Of the entire Allied Naval force which fought the ill-starred, unequal Battle of the Java Sea, only four destroyers managed to make their way to Australia after a skirmish with Japanese destroyers patrolling Ball Strait. Thus the Java Sea had come entirely under Japanese control.

On Sunday, March 1, the enemy invaded Java at three points. Crossing Sunda Strait from Sumatra, one large force landed at Bantam. It

was the naval escort of this convoy which sank the Perth and Houston. Another invasion fleet landed troops at Indramayu, 100 miles east of Batavia, and the eastern fleet of transports put troops ashore near Rembang, 80 miles west of Sourabaya.

Sixty thousand Japanese troops supported by planes and tanks in 24 hours had consolidated three bridge-heads and had pushed inland lightly armed groups of 300 and 400 men,

some on bicycles, some in light armoured cars. Tactics of Malaya were duplicated. Small parties with powerful air support and light tanks infiltrated the territory, avoiding pitched battles, disregarding the highways and outflanking the defending forces.

Fearful Odds

THE Dutch Command was unable to concentrate strong enough forces to assault the bridgeheads on a large scale. In the Rembang sector, General Irgen with a few battalions of Infantry and marines found himself opposed to two Japanese divisions. Near Indramayu the enemy quickly achieved local numerical superiority and fanned out on to the plains of Kranggan. The Dutch commander, General Hein Ter Poorten, had to try to hold two enemy spearheads from Bantam whose objectives were Batavia and Bandoeng. Batavia was heavily bombed, and the Japanese kept the defending troops on the move by persistent sweeps by low-flying bombers and strafing fighters.

On their way back from the Middle East, a small force of Australians was diverted first to Sumatra, and then to Java to support the Dutch forces and small contingents of British and American troops.

This force was commanded by Brigadier Arthur Scerif, Blackburn, V.C., a first class soldier with a record of distinction in two World Wars. It consisted of three A.I.F. battalions—the 2/2nd Pioneer Battalion, a Victorian unit, the 2/3rd Machine Gun Battalion, and a battalion built up from reinforcements and some A.I.F. men who had made their escape from Singapore. It was known as "Black" Force, and was thrown into battle against the two columns of the Japanese invasion army who from their landing in Bantam region were pressing towards Batavia.

Defence of aerodromes in the neighbourhood of Batavia was the task allotted to the Australians. Of these men, 1,500 had had training in Infantry fighting, but their equipment was deficient. The remaining thousand men were clerks, drivers and men of a postal and pay corps and of a mobile laundry unit.

Using infiltration on a very large scale, the Japanese circumvented the Dutch coastal defences and moved rapidly towards the mountain defensive line prepared round Bandoeng. General Ter Poorten's advanced troops were cut off as he sought to draw back his forces in the face of a determined onslaught by two highly competent Japanese divisions. By March 2 he realised that he could fight only a delaying action to enable destruction of cargo loading gear and other harbour installations in Bantam.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

Mrs. Tuffer writes: My husband has a ridiculous trick of trying to force the love of my car through the strings of a tennis racket, to amuse guests. It is painful and humiliating. What should I do?

Dr. Bhabha says: Cut one or two of the strings, so that the love will go through quite easily, and without pain to you. If you still feel humiliated, tie his shoe laces, when he is not looking, to those of the lady seated next to him, or set fire to his trouser ends.

More fun
I HEAR rumours of yet another B.B.C. Improvement—a special Very Long Programme for people with Taste. There will be a reading of the whole of "War and Peace," by a team of actors working in

Against fearful odds, the little Australian force, armed only with Bren guns and rifles, held on grimly to gain time to allow the scorched earth policy to be applied in and around Batavia. Twice on March 3 they broke up solid attacks by a well-equipped Japanese division. They had only three mortars, and in two days of savage fighting one of these was buried and dug out six times. Air support steadily diminished as the Allied Air Force, never very strong, was beaten down.

Enemy Hurdled Back

DEPLOYED with skill on the banks of a river near Buitenzorg and led with judgment by Brigadier Blackburn, the Australians fought with dauntless courage. Again and again they hurled back the attacking enemy columns, and in two days killed 600 Japanese. Dutch war material was moved out of Batavia, while the little band resolutely held the pass. Bombed and shelled in their hastily dug gun pits, they earned the withdrawal of Dutch forces from Batavia and Buitenzorg. It was another of those gallant but hopeless efforts like those at Rabaul, Timor and Ambon. With complete command of Sunda Strait and the Allied naval forces destroyed or scattered, the Japanese were able to reinforce their invasion army at will. By March 5 their columns had swung round behind Batavia and the end was near.

Describing the magnificent defensive struggle of the Australians, Brigadier Blackburn said: "For 72 hours this crack Japanese division hammered at us and could not advance a yard. If they had passed us, very large forces would have been cut off, harbour demolitions could not have been done, and big quantities of Dutch war material would have been lost."

By sheer, stark bravery, our men held them off. There never has been a finer body of men."

When Batavia fell to the enemy the Australians were withdrawn to the Bandoeng mountain defensive area. Against key points in this mountain line the Japanese amassed heavy artillery and crushed them by sheer weight of metal. On March 6 they captured Kalidati aerodrome, 40 miles from Bandoeng. This gave their bombers free range and they could choose their targets with impunity. Both Dutch and Australian forces now suffered continuous unopposed air attack. By weight of numbers, the Japanese overcame the defences of Bandoeng and seized the town.

Organised resistance was continued for a few days longer until March 9. By then the mountain position had become untenable owing to lack of supplies and incessant hammering from the air. Small, well-trained Dutch guerrilla groups under General Schilling and General Peeters continued to fight in the mountains. The Australians also took to the hills, but lacking both food and ammunition, many eventually were forced to surrender.

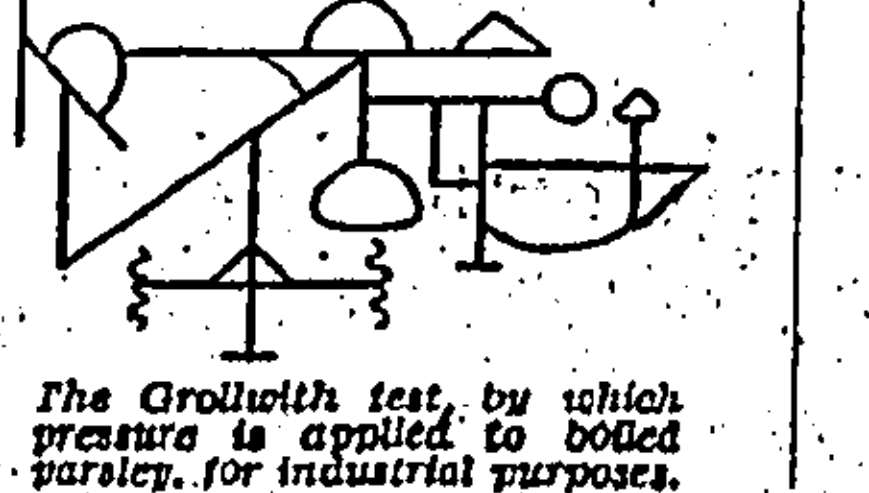
Helfrich Leaves

ADMIRAL Helfrich left Java with his staff on March 1, and three days later laid down command of the Allied naval force in the area. His squadron of ships had fought on the destruction of the light cruiser Tromp and survived in the noble comradeship of battle. Netherlands warships with those of Britain, Australia and the United States had been handled with boldness, bravery and skill unexcelled anywhere in the many theatres of war. They had taken toll of enemy shipping to an extent which seriously delayed his plans for swift and complete conquest of New Guinea.

When the Japanese entered Sourabaya on March 9, they found the naval base and harbour a tangle of smoking wreckage. Ship had been sunk along the quays and in the harbour entrance. Oil tanks had been alight for a week and the factories and dockyards of Sourabaya would have to be rebuilt from the ground and every piece of machinery and equipment brought from Japan. All this destruction had a special significance for Australia. It meant that with hardly any industrial resources left, Java and the rest of the Dutch islands could not immediately be employed by the Japanese as a base from which a large scale offensive against Australia could be mounted.

This is expected to take a couple of weeks, without any break, except for one hour each night, during which the commentator will explain what it is all about. Then there will be "Sordello," a ballet adapted from Browning's poem of that name, and a choral rendering of 1,250 of the maxims of Confucius.

Marvels of science



The Grolloth test, by which pressure is applied to bottled variety, for industrial purposes.

By Ernie Bushmiller

POCKET CARTOON



"He told me he had to travel too far for bread these days."

According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

Most players know all about forcing bids, but the forcing pass is still a mystery to the great majority. Observe this typical case:

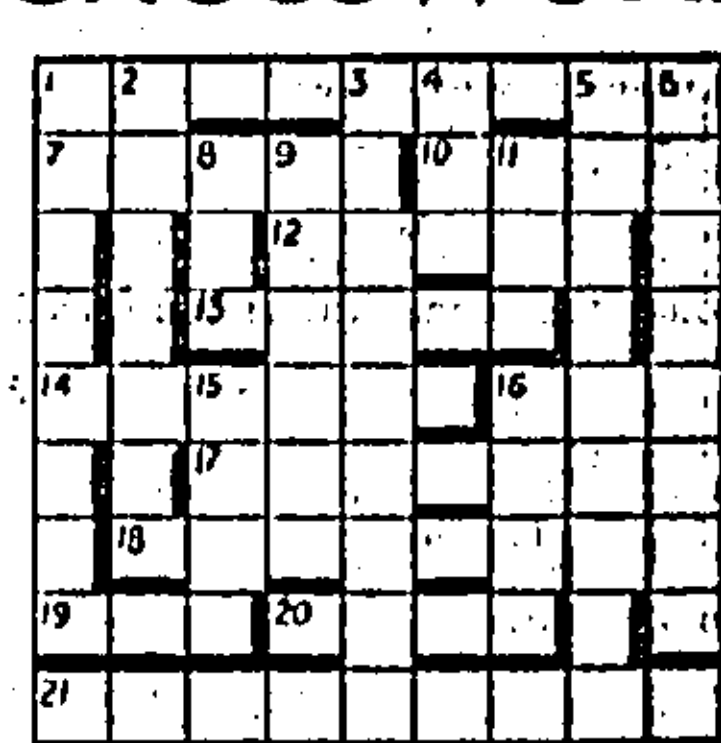
NORTH	
♠ J 10 6 3	
♥ 8 4 2	
♦ A 6	
♣ Q 5 4 3	
WEST	
♠ 4	♥ A 2
♦ A J 5	♣ K 7
♥ 7 3	♦ J 10 8 5 4
♣ K 10 8 7 2	♠ A J 6
SOUTH	
♠ K 8 7 5 2	
♥ Q 10 6 3	
♦ K Q	
♣ —	

The bidding:
West: 1♣, 2♣, 3♣, 4♣, 5♣, 6♣, 7♣, 8♣, 9♣, 10♣, 11♣, 12♣, 13♣, 14♣, 15♣, 16♣, 17♣, 18♣, 19♣, 20♣, 21♣, 22♣, 23♣, 24♣, 25♣, 26♣, 27♣, 28♣, 29♣, 30♣, 31♣, 32♣, 33♣, 34♣, 35♣, 36♣, 37♣, 38♣, 39♣, 40♣, 41♣, 42♣, 43♣, 44♣, 45♣, 46♣, 47♣, 48♣, 49♣, 50♣, 51♣, 52♣, 53♣, 54♣, 55♣, 56♣, 57♣, 58♣, 59♣, 60♣, 61♣, 62♣, 63♣, 64♣, 65♣, 66♣, 67♣, 68♣, 69♣, 70♣, 71♣, 72♣, 73♣, 74♣, 75♣, 76♣, 77♣, 78♣, 79♣, 80♣, 81♣, 82♣, 83♣, 84♣, 85♣, 86♣, 87♣, 88♣, 89♣, 90♣, 91♣, 92♣, 93♣, 94♣, 95♣, 96♣, 97♣, 98♣, 99♣, 100♣.

The defence, at least, was good. West opened his top diamond, dummy's ace was put up and the spade jack was led through East. That player went right in with the ace and shifted to the king and seven of hearts. West won with the heart jack, cashed the ace and when declarer was shown to have started with four hearts, led the heart nine. Declarer ruffed with dummy's ten in a desperate effort to shut out East, but the latter, of course, could over-ruff with the spade queen. Down two—but not doubled!

East sheepishly pointed out that he had not thought much of his hand, with the queen of spades under the spade bidder and with nothing in his own bid suit, diamonds. This was all very well—but East could have been a great deal more consistent. His two-ten trump bid directly over North's spade raise did not reflect any dissatisfaction with his hand, and once he made that call he had no right to "back out" when West passed the four-spade bid and moved to him in what was an obvious demand for a choice between doubling and going on to five clubs. The situation itself in the light of all the bids made by East and West, marked West's pass on the last round as forcing, and East certainly should have taken some constructive action, even if it was the wrong action!

CROSSWORD

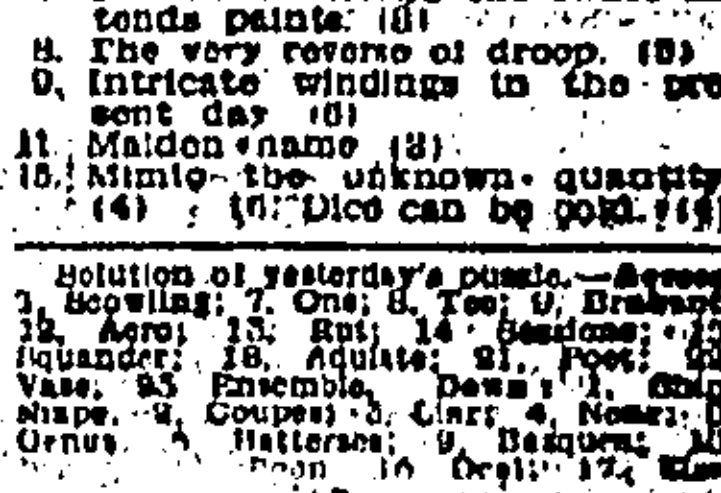


Across

1. Knewed (7, 3)
2. Deer return to roving (10)
3. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
4. (1)
5. A change in a system (10)
6. (1)
7. Just as (10) 10. Answer (14)
8. The blue to pin (10)
9. Send time to the ravings (10)
10. (1)
11. How some kids slide (14)
12. Promoted (10)

1. Daily tea, but don't knock the (10)
2. Sailor among the Communists (10)
3. (1)
4. It goes on through (10)
5. Speech (10)
6. Sounds as though the wine (10)
7. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
8. The wine (10)
9. Intimate (10)
10. (1)
11. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
12. (1)
13. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
14. (1)
15. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
16. (1)
17. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
18. (1)
19. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
20. (1)
21. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
22. (1)
23. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
24. (1)
25. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
26. (1)
27. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
28. (1)
29. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
30. (1)
31. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
32. (1)
33. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
34. (1)
35. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
36. (1)
37. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
38. (1)
39. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
40. (1)
41. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
42. (1)
43. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
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45. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
46. (1)
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68. (1)
69. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
70. (1)
71. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
72. (1)
73. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
74. (1)
75. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
76. (1)
77. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
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79. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
80. (1)
81. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
82. (1)
83. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
84. (1)
85. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
86. (1)
87. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
88. (1)
89. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
90. (1)
91. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
92. (1)
93. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
94. (1)
95. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
96. (1)
97. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
98. (1)
99. Knew a tin can be (10-11)
100. (1)

Marvels of science



The Grolloth test, by which pressure is applied to bottled variety, for industrial purposes.

By Ernie Bushmiller

NANCY Hard to Please

When You Feel Tired
and Restless

take

Elliott's Nerve

and

Brain Tonic

On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women This Space Every Day

BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Blonde hair can be kept light. L. is Leeds tells you how.

"DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

"Dear Lois Leeds—Does soda dry the hair? My hair is very light and I want to keep it that way. NELL."

Yes, soda is drying. Why not use a camomile rinse or the juice of two lemons? This will keep your hair light and it isn't drying.

"Dear Lois Leeds—My arms are long and thin and I am tall. Which would be the more flattering—four narrow gold bracelets for one arm or a wide-band style for each arm?"

—LALIE.

A band bracelet for each arm would, I think, be very flattering and most attractive. Why not take arm exercises and deep massage for those thin arms?

AIDS FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

Two items of equipment for the baby which should be popular with young mothers have just been put on the market by British manufacturers.

The first is a device to stop a perambulator from tipping up when baby scrambles about in it and tries out his standing powers. It consists of a folding metal stand which is fixed to the axle, can be kicked back out of the way when the pram is being pushed, and pulled down when it is standing. There is a human story behind this invention, for it was designed by a grandfather after his own grandchild had fallen out of its pram.

The second device is a special bath for baby which can be fitted in any sized adult bath, resting on its edges by means of metal supports. It can be filled from the tap or resealed of the big bath, and a removable plug allows it to be emptied into the big bath too. Thus both splashing and the rather strenuous necessity for setting up baby's bath and filling and emptying it by hand are eliminated. Moreover the bath is at a convenient height for the mother. These baths can be obtained in steel, stone, enameled, or in aluminium, in different colours.

Mimic Makeup

by GABRIELLE



Connections are for you to use wisely and well! Have the courage to use cosmetics to enhance your Good Looks or to make you good looking. Dramatize your eyes by using eyeshadow to deepen the color, mascara to fringe the lashes. Use pencilling to accent the too-thin eyebrows, lipstick to deepen your mouth.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"They aren't really much help, but my new book on child psychology says if we let them do things themselves, they'll reach maturity faster!"

Aachen Germans Scrape In Ruins For Existence

By EDWARD W. BEATTIE
United Press Staff Correspondent

Children, old people and ruins—that is Aachen. The city which surrendered to the First Division on October 21, 1944, to become the first major city to fall, still looks as if the fighting ended yesterday. Only the return of the population has brought it life of a sort.

About 111,000 persons live there now against the 165,000 before the war. Only 2,000 defied Adolf Hitler's orders for a mass evacuation, and covered in their cellars during the eight-day battle that smashed the city.

Like most city dwellers in Germany these days, the people have to scrape in the ruins for even a dimly existence. Only 40 percent of them are fit for jobs in the tyre factory, the freight car repair shops, and the handful of small industries.

Some of the big textile mills are still usable. But management is dead, and if it tried to resume operations there would be no labour.

Electric lights have been restored, the water supply almost re-established, and there is even gas to cook with in some parts of the city. But many inhabitants have neither a stove to cook on, nor a house to heat.

Commercial kitchens serve 16,000 meals daily. More than 1,000 persons still live in the big concrete air raid bunkers built by Hitler. Other thousands live several to a room in homes where authorities have requisitioned all spare space. Where the others live, nobody knows. Perhaps in basement caves under the rubble.

This sort of existence—in Aachen as elsewhere—is a source of great worry to Control authorities because of the disease danger. Aachen's sewers will not be repaired for years. Scrape, meanwhile, will be a constant threat.

They Help Themselves

British Control officers give Aachen citizens full credit for trying to help themselves. Swiss charity supplies 20,000 meals weekly to children under six, and has furnished 20 wooden barracks. British Quakers operate a youth camp and clubs. With this outside assistance, German churches and the German Red Cross are striving to cope with the worst needs.

Everyone is shabby and hungry. The people are spending the cold winter without coal.

When you leave Aachen and pass down the Cologne road that took the First Army to the Rhine, it is like passing from war to peace. There are orchards and fields with men working in a peaceful atmosphere.

Then the twin towers of Cologne Cathedral soar out of the flat Rhine plain, and the shattered mass of the city closes in around you, and you are back in the war again—the war that will still be with Germany for at least two more generations.

CAMERA HUNT FOR ANIMALS

FRESH from the Australian bush, from a lonely farm 10 miles from the nearest town, a young man has just arrived in Singapore for a three-year stay in Malayan jungle country to study the habits of wild animals.

He is 31-year-old Mr. Arthur Gibson, who was born at the Indian hill station of Mussoorie.

No one has sent him; he represents no big combine or natural history museum. His mission is personal—as individual as when he watched the antics of the koala bear, the wallaby, dingy and opossum in the Australian bush.

Mr. Gibson told a reporter, "Many photographs that have been taken purporting to show animals under natural conditions have been taken in cages or have been only mislabeled. I aim to take photographs with a cine camera in colour if possible—showing animals of all types and how they live."

Mr. Gibson's main complaint against Singapore is that so few people seem to know where best in Malaya he can find the conditions he seeks.

After his three-year tour, and having taken hundreds of pictures, Mr. Gibson will either return to Australia or go to England where he hopes to interest film companies in the fruits of his three years' work.

Churchill's War Maps Exhibited

Three-dimensional maps which Winston Churchill had especially made during the war and used constantly, and the bright, polished steel helmet which he was supposed to use—but did not during air raids, are among the exhibits at the Imperial War Museum which recently reopened in London.

The four maps of Southeast England, the Channel coast, Greece and Burma—were made at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces. They are in great detail—every hill and fold in the land is shown. Churchill had them with him always—and took them to his meetings with the late President Roosevelt and Generalissimo Stalin.

—Associated Press.

NILE BASIN DEVELOPMENT

PLAN TO HARNESS WATER FOR POWER

A far-reaching plan for the exploitation of the Nile River as a source of electric power, has been put forward in London by Adrian Daninos, an Egyptian agricultural consulting engineer.

Daninos has set out to mobilize the engineering and technical services of Britain, the United States, France, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium and Sweden to carry out the huge project.

The projected Nile Valley authority would be an object lesson to the world in private enterprise. Daninos is not seeking Government money or even foreign capital.

He said: "The bulk of the capital required will be forthcoming from Egyptian sources." He declined, however, to identify these sources until plans for the project have been worked out.

Plans for Development

The Egyptian engineer, says Associated Press, laid out these foundations for the economic development of Egypt and the Nile basin:

1. The formation of a league, or Nile Valley authority, to sponsor the studies of the long-term project, co-ordinating all previous efforts on the Nile Valley nations to exploit the river.

2. The formation of a panel of internationally known river control experts and economists to prepare projects and plans.

3. The formation of a company, or a group of companies, to provide the financial support.

Daninos proposes to reclaim the Qattara depression by 4,750,000 acres in the western desert by diverting water from the Nile.

He opposed a project studied by the Government to release water from the Mediterranean Sea into the depression to generate electric current, saying that salt water would ruin the land while the Nile water would reclaim it and produce electricity as well.

The Nile project, said Daninos, would include the opening of the Nile navigation throughout its length, bringing into development an enormous area yet untouched and which will "at once affect the well being and purchasing power of large masses of African peoples."

FERTILISER SHORTAGE

A White House statement says that the serious fertilisers shortage—which threatens famine, disease and unrest in the United States occupation areas abroad will be greatly improved after July.

The Presidential assistant, Mr. John Steelman, said the lack of tank cars is further aggravating the fertilizer shortage. He said he has been forced by the transportation bottlenecks to ask the Army to reduce to one-half its original goal for the production of nitrogen for farm use in occupied areas.

Steelman said additional chemical plants which are not in operation at present will be turned over by the Army to private manufacturers of fertilizer shortly. He said: "This will help to alleviate some of the spread between demand and supply for the next crop year, and enable this country to provide larger quantities of fertilizer to devastated areas."

He warned that famine, disease and unrest will remain a constant threat in the United States occupied portion of Japan, Korea and Germany until the fertility of the soil is restored. —United Press.

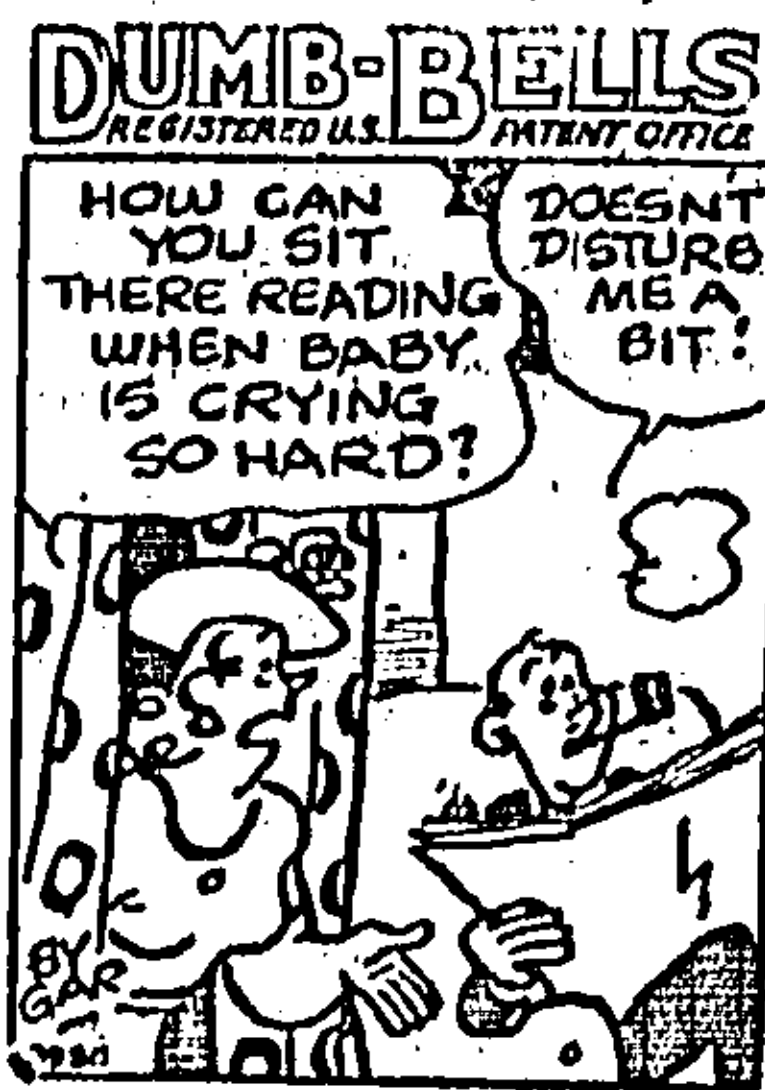
Niemöller's Warning

Pastor Martin Niemöller, the German Christian Church leader who is visiting the United States, told a recent session of the biennial assembly of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America that the world's people to-day are facing a deadly crisis.

Niemöller said: "The development of the churches during recent centuries has been clouded by divisions within the Christian community. These divisions have hindered the church from recognizing her responsibility for the world as a whole."

"As a result of our failing in the church's world-wide mission, we are facing to-day a deadly crisis. The most outstanding sign of this is the atomic danger. The time is really here when, if we do not hang together, we shall hang separately."

—Associated Press.



TOWN SINKS 7 INCHES EACH YEAR

In Britain there is a town whose main street sinks seven inches every year. The town is Northwich, centre of the salt towns of the county of Cheshire. And it is the salt which is the cause of all the trouble.

Nothing remains level in Northwich for long—the salt sees to that, eating away ground beneath roads and buildings until they subside. For this reason houses are built in steel frames to prevent them collapsing and, frequently, whole buildings have to be moved on rollers to safer foundations.

But all this is no novelty to the good people of Northwich, whose ancestors have been making salt since the remote days before the legions of Julius Caesar set foot on the shores of Britain. For hundreds of years salt was made from brine at Northwich until, in the 18th century, they began mining rock salt.

But brine, flowing into the mines, caused them to collapse. So the owners decided to pump out the brine but this only caused the ground above to cave in. In 1880 the biggest subsidence occurred. Suddenly, dozens of lakes appeared, frothing and bubbling and shooting fountains of water upwards. All sorts of buildings and equipment just vanished beneath the ground and it is estimated that during that day the River Weaver lost over 500,000 tons of water in four hours.

To-day Northwich is still a salt centre—but the hardest worked man is the town surveyor!

BRITAIN'S FULL SPORTS YEAR

This year promises to be a full year in Britain's sporting world. With the prospect of the 1948 Olympiad before them, sports clubs and organisations throughout the country are getting on their mettle.

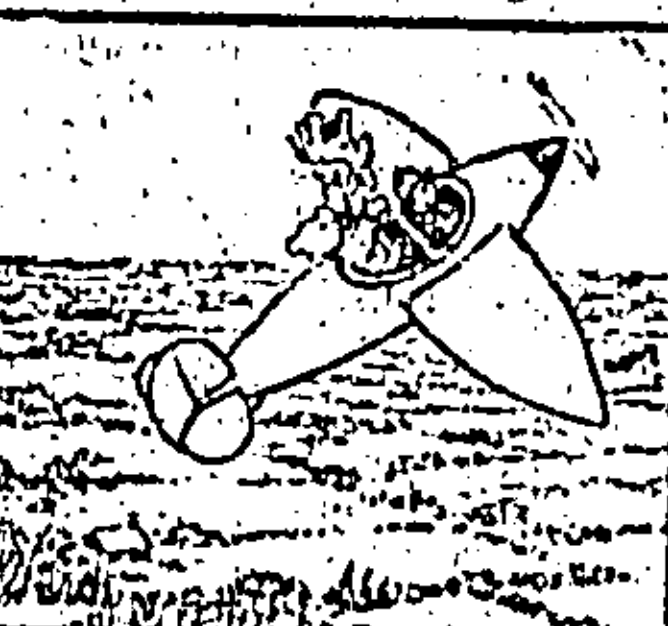
In the non-athletic field the new season's sleaze-chasing programme is well under way leading up to the world's greatest horse race, the Grand National at Aintree, Liverpool, on March 28.

Women are well represented in the new season's fixture list. The Women's Hockey Association have a heavy programme of regional matches during February prior to the England v. Eire International in London on March 1 and England v. Wales in Manchester on March 8.

March is an indoor month so far as the major fixtures are concerned. The All-England Badminton Championships are to be held in London from March 3 to 8 and the final of the English Open Table Tennis Championships at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 15. The Amateur Fencing Association is holding the Men's Foli Championships on March 17 in London and this is followed by the International Sabre Competition for the Corbel Cup on March 20 and 21.

And cricket fans whose only pleasure during the winter months is in reading how the English team is faring in its present tour of Australia are looking forward to the visit during the summer of a representative team from the Union of South Africa—a visit originally planned for 1946 but postponed because of World War II. Five test matches will be played—two in London and the remainder at Nottingham, Manchester and Leeds.

Rupert and Ninky—44



Though he is delighted to see Ninky again, Rupert is worried to notice how rapidly the plane is rushing towards the earth. "We are near him, but can we possibly catch him?" he asks anxiously. The Scout doesn't answer but puts on a little spirit and then loops sharply under Ninky so that the cloth donkey falls neatly into Rupert's arms. "That was perfect," cries the little bear. "You are clever. And now, please, may we land at Nutwood?"

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TO-DAY ONLY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

HELD OVER! ONE DAY ONLY

Maureen O'HARA • John Payne • Connie Marshall

"SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture
GRAND OPENING TO-MORROW
BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

gay! glittering! glamorous!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
DANNY KAYE
THE KID FROM BROOKLYN

—and—
Virginia MAYO • VERA ELLEN
THE GOLDWYN GIRLS
WALTER ADLER • EYE ADLER • STEVE COCHRAN
FAY BAUNTER • LONEL STANDER

Technicolor

ALHAMBRA SHOWING TO-DAY 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

OUTCAST BOX
OUTLAW HORSE

Unfamed as the wilderness they roam together!

WILD BEAUTY

with DON COLLIER
LOIS COLLIER
JACQUELINE de WIT
GEORGE CLEVELAND
ROBERT "Buzzy" HENRY
and Wild Beauty

Original Screenplay by ADELE BUFFINGTON
Directed and Produced by WALLACE W. FOX

CATHAY TO-DAY ONLY 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

IT'S SWEET! IT'S HOT! IT'S HEAVENLY!

LINDA DARNELL • JACK OAKIE

"SWEET and LOW-DOWN"

with BENNY GOODMAN and his Band

TO-MORROW
JUDY GARLAND in **"HARVEY GIRL"**

THE BEST CIGARETTES IN THE WORLD

STATE EXPRESS 555

AGAIN IMPORTED FROM LONDON

For over half a century STATE EXPRESS 555 have maintained their reputation as the best cigarettes in the world

\$3.25 for 50

Sole Manufacturers: ARDATH TOBACCO Co. Ltd., LONDON

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TRADE PERMITTED
WITH GERMANY

London, Feb. 25.
The Board of Trade announced yesterday that British firms will be permitted to trade with Germany beginning March 4 through a revision of Britain's trading with the enemy regulations.

The revision was timed to coincide with similar action by the United States, the Board said. — Associated Press.

TIME LIMIT
SOBERING
TO INDIANS

Melbourne, Feb. 24.
Mr. Richard Casey, former Governor of Bengal, in an article in the Herald said today that though the situation in India without doubt contained seeds of civil war, he believed the British decision had not increased this risk, adding that a time limit would have a sobering effect on the Indians.

Mr. Casey's article, in connection with Britain's decision to hand over power to the Indians, said: "It has been my personal belief, ever since I was in India long enough to have a point of view, that the sooner we handed over political power in India the better. Our position there has been increasingly intolerable for many years."

"There is no doubt the situation in India contains seeds of civil war, but I do not believe the recent British decisions increase this awful risk."

"The decision to get out in 15 months is firm and blunt and will clear a lot of bluff and bluster out of the way. I believe a time limit will have a sobering effect on a wide range of Indian politicians, who will be up against reality of personal responsibility for the first time in their lives." — United Press.

Adm d'Argenlieu

Paris, Feb. 24.
Admiral Thierry d'Argenlieu, French High Commissioner for Indo-China, has arrived by air from Saigon to report to the government on the Indo-China situation.

It has been widely rumoured that the government will replace Admiral d'Argenlieu, but official circles have declined either to confirm or deny this. — United Press.

CRASHED PLANE
CREW RESCUED

New York, Feb. 24.
The crew of eleven of a wrecked B-29 were rescued from a Greenland ice cap in a daring flight by an Army C-54, which carried them safely to Thule, Greenland today.

The pilot of the rescue plane landed his plane on the snow beside the wrecked aircraft, which crashed on Friday. Using rockets to aid his take-off the rescue pilot headed his plane back to Thule, 200 miles south of the scene of the crash. — Reuters.

COMMENCING

FRIDAY

28th February

AT THE

KING'S

A THOUSAND THRILLS
THE SCREEN HAS NEVER
BEEN SEEN BEFORE

Starring JOHN WAYNE
Cecil B. DeMille's
GREATEST SPECTACLE
REAP THE
WILD WIND
IN TECHNICOLOR!

PAULETTE GODDARD
LYNNE OVERMAN
ROBERT PRESTON-SUSAN HAYWARD

Charles Mitchell Walter Langley - Martha Mitchell
Robert Preston - Produced and Directed by Cecil B. DeMille
Screen Play by John Ford, Charles Brackett and John Lasker, Jr.
Based on a Novel by Bessie Long by John Ford

BOOKINGS OPEN
TO-MORROW

AN AUTHOR REPLIES
TO OUR CRITICISMS
History Of World War II

Indicating that future editions will be revised to correct inaccuracies about the Battle of Hongkong, Dr Francis Trevelyan Miller, author of "History of World War II," has written a long letter acknowledging the "Hongkong Telegraph" leader on his book, published on January 18.

In the editorial, the "Telegraph" described "History of World War II" as "monumental, but inaccurate," and pointed to four instances concerning the defence of Hongkong. They were: Brigadier J. K. Lawson named as commander of the colony's garrison, and being credited with twice rejecting surrender demands; the statement that the siege lasted 16 days, and that when guns remained unmanned because of heavy casualties, Americans took over vacant positions.

TEXT OF LETTER

The text of Dr Miller's letter, which we believe our readers will find of interest, follows:

Your letter arrived and has received my careful attention. I thank you for calling the clipping to my attention and your excellent advice.

The "Hongkong Telegraph" holds high position in our esteem and we value your judgment on world affairs. You are doing a grand job in China.

NO SECURITY
IN ATOMIC
BOMB ALONE

St. Louis, Missouri, Feb. 24.
The Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, addressing a civic group, said today that America's or any other nation's security cannot depend on power of atomic bombs alone.

He said defence weapons and a nation's co-operative spirit were equally essential.

"I deprecate, and sometimes flout, talk about the degree of security implicit in a weapon that might destroy millions overnight," Gen. Eisenhower said. "Those who measure security solely in terms of offensive capacity distort its meaning and mislead those who pay them heed."

"No modern nation ever equalled, prior to the outbreak of war, the crushing offensive power attained by the German war machine of 1939. No modern nation has been broken and smashed as was Germany six years later."

CUT IN BUDGET

Gen. Eisenhower said it would be foolhardy for the United States to decrease her military strength before an organization capable of policing the world comes into being.

Without mentioning the current Republican drive in the House of Representatives to cut President Truman's proposed budget for the Army and Navy, Gen. Eisenhower warned against over-economy which would leave the nation's defence in "military nakedness."

"Time and again we have proved the staggering extravagance of penny-wise policies," Gen. Eisenhower said. — United Press.

Smugglers Use
One-man Sub

Rome, Feb. 24.
The newspaper, Il Messaggero, reported from Como today that a one-man submarine had been "captured" at Lugano after numerous profitable trips carrying smuggled contraband merchandise between Italy and Switzerland.

The submarine, six metres long and three metres wide, was reportedly built at Milan and taken to Portofino, on Lake Como, for assembly. It then made nightly voyages on Lake Como, carrying 10 quintals of merchandise, each way, including meat, rice, flour, textiles, tyres, watches and tobacco, eluding customs and border guards on both shores.

The newspaper said the organisers of the smuggling trade were both Italians and Swiss.

It said the submarine was forced to emerge at the Swiss shore three days ago, was seen and taken into captivity at Lugano. — United Press.

NAZI ROUND-UP

(Continued from Page 10).

The officer said the movement appeared to have originated in the Autumn of 1945, but there was no evidence that it had been based on secret orders from Nazi leaders. He stated that so far no single dominating figure in the conspiracy had been discovered.

He expressed amazement at the surprise shown by some quarters that a subversive movement should exist in Germany. "The Germans have been dealing with subversive movements throughout the Continent of Europe throughout the war and one presumes they learned something," he said. — Reuters.

I regret, of course, that your headline charged us with "inaccuracy" while favourably speaking of our work as "monumental." This might be said of many press reports which come to us, and on which we must rely.

From your own experience you know the tremendous problems involved in recording a global war while it was in progress, when there were so many conflicting reports in our best press reports and official statements.

I wish you would tell your readers that here in America we organised a staff of eminent authorities to sift the evidence. We kept in touch with all nations possible in communication and their embassies in Washington. We appealed to the Chinese Ministry for aid.

Most of the time we could not make connections with China, especially Hongkong after the Japanese occupation. The Chinese Embassy here could give us but little information. Radio messages to China were unanswered. A message to General Chiang Kai Shek was unanswered.

DESK MEN'S JOB

This required us to confine ourselves largely to what our communications reached our War Office and also to depend upon dispatches from our war correspondents, also AP, and London sources with British Information Bureau.

On our staff were three members of the staff of our New York Times men on the cable desks who were receiving some 50,000 words a day from the world-wide fronts. Much of this, as you know, was contradictory in its reports.

The statements which you question were given to us by the cable men who were covering the Far Eastern fronts and is now "official" man on news to and from Japan and China. His standing is high and his accuracy is dependable insofar as he can judge from a distance. The statements we published were all published in our leading American journals.

The accuracy of our authorities is attested by the fact two of our staff have been appointed to important missions on fact-finding in the countries now under reconstruction. They consider our work "monumental" (as you do) under the adverse circumstances.

DOUBLE CHECK

With the war ended and communications reopened there were problems were solved. It is now a simple matter to get direct statements (such as those which you have kindly sent us). We are doing everything possible to "check and double check."

We venture to say, however, that a study and analysis of reports from the Far East during the war would show many discrepancies and contradictions caused by varying views and the times. China has been and still is a point of contention.

Contemporary history has the almost insurmountable difficulty of trying to adjudicate these discrepancies. However, contemporary history is of utmost importance as it records what was being said and being thought at the time the events were taking place. Future historians, who can work with free access to all materials, have a comparatively simple task.

We find now that even some of our War Department reports are in conflict with inter-day material. For instance: General MacArthur's communique stated that a certain Japanese General in the Philippines had committed suicide. Later it was discovered that the General had been removed to Japan and still later (after the war) was placed on trial as a war criminal and sentenced to death. This is but one of many similar instances.

MANY CONTRADICTIONS

A survey of dispatches from China during the Japanese occupation shows many contradictions. Even during recent days the Chinese Communist issues and news dispatches are in conflict and our people have great difficulty in ascertaining the truth as each group makes its own contradictory statements.

Our chapter on China paid the highest tribute to the Chinese people for their heroic struggle. It seems to us that differences in time elements, exact dates, etc., while we desire to have them correct, are minor matters in comparison to the principles we establish. The great thing is that the war is won!

We must remember also that our greatest historians on long-past wars and events are in conflict over the facts. The Napoleonic Wars have many diverse findings. Even our own American Revolution is told one way in America in our schools—and another way in Great Britain in their schools. Our American Civil War of 80 years ago is still a battleground of facts and figures. Authorities here found hundreds of "errors" in H. G. Wells' great "Outline of History."

Your letter and clipping are deeply appreciated. We feel that a long-view attitude will permit us to be considerate of our problems—with your understanding of human nature where two people are at spot at the time seldom report the same story. We shall revise future editions to meet these controversies and again thank you and your editors for their co-operation.

Respectfully yours,
(Dr FRANCIS TREVELYAN MILLER)
Historical Foundations.

TO HANG



Col Kennosuke Noma, former chief of the Japanese Gendarmerie in Hongkong, was sentenced to death yesterday by the War Crimes Court.

ROME DUEL
CALLED OFF

Rome, Feb. 24.
The scheduled Paoletti-Benedetti duel of honour was called off to-night with a "no-factious understanding" as another potential duellist appeared on the scene.

Randolfo Paoletti, 48, secretary of the Republican Party and veteran of four successful duels, and the Monarchist leader, Tullio Benedetti, 50, settled their impending affair of swords with pens.

Then Giovanni Artieri, author of the article in Benedetti's Monarchist paper which called Paoletti a "coward" and brought about the first challenge, challenged Paoletti. Paoletti and Benedetti's seconds met to-night and agreed that the duel between the two should not be held. They said the matter was settled "with an agreement signed by all four representatives."

Erroneous Evaluation

The agreement said: "The Giornale della Sera editorial which provoked the trouble was based on an erroneous evaluation of Paoletti's speech, which did not put in doubt the gallantry of the army but only that the technical preparation of the General Staff caused the army's defeat."

Paoletti, in an interview with another newspaper last night, said he had challenged Benedetti, owner of the Giornale della Sera, instead of Artieri, author of the offending article, because he considered the latter beneath his dignity.

The Paoletti-Benedetti affair attracted voluminous newspaper space and great public interest because it involved the most nationally controversial subject in Italy—the performance of the Italian soldier in battle—and because the principals symbolised one side in the continuing Monarchist-Republican argument. — United Press.

Degenerating Influence
Of Hollywood Assailed

Washington, Feb. 24.
The "degenerating influence" of radio and the movies, loss of prestige by the churches and failure of the government in its contributions to cultural progress are endangering the democratic way of life, Mrs Eugene Meyer said today.

Mrs Meyer, a writer on social problems and wife of the owner of the Washington Post, spoke before the 21st Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defence.

"Hollywood shows a readiness to sell the nation's welfare down the river if only it can make money," Mrs Meyer said. "Many of our film producers are on a par with dope peddlers. They take advantage of humanity's lowest instincts for making money."

While reserving her sharpest barbs for Hollywood and the radio industry, Mrs Meyer was critical of school neglect, inadequate health laws, the housing shortage, churches and most women who, she said, never were "more confused," unhappy and insecure.

Greater Menace

In some respects, she said, radio is the "greater menace" to the home because it "goes right into the home." Radio, however, makes a greater effort than the movies to "compensate" for gangsterism, sex and sadistic violence with good music, lectures and plays.

The movies could make a valuable contribution, she said, by treating present-day social tragedies as did Henrik Ibsen and George Bernard Shaw in previous periods.

Mrs Meyer said that "unfortunately the established churches are so preoccupied with material possessions" that their influence is felt the least among the people most needing it.

Preservation of Family

She said that unless the housing shortage is solved and public housing programmes encouraged for

AUSTRIAN TREATY:

Agreement Not Reached
On Economic Clauses

London, Feb. 24.
The economic clauses of the Austrian treaty were taken at a gallop at this morning's session of the Special Deputies for Austria. Proving to be easily the most controversial section of the treaty, the articles in question were rapidly disposed of on the basis of almost total disagreement, and in this form they will go forward to Moscow.

To-morrow the deputies for Austria hope to hold their last meeting at which they can formally adopt their report for the Council of Foreign Ministers.

As had been expected, two of the most controversial sections proved to be the definition of German assets in Austria and compensation to be paid by Austria for United Nations property. On the question of German assets, three formal drafts from Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States, which were tabled to-day, are to be sent to Moscow. There is also a fourth informal French proposal.

The critical difference between the British and Soviet standpoints on this question remains unchanged. Britain wishes to limit the definition of German assets which must be handed over by Austria to the Allies to two categories—property which was German property before the Anschluss and property voluntarily handed over by German nationals after the Anschluss.

The Soviet proposal still wishes to include as German assets the property seized by German nationals after the union of Germany and Austria and property developed by German capital and labour in that period.

In the course of a short conversation, M. Fyodor Gusev accused the

FAIL TO GET
WAGES CLAIM

(Continued from Page 1)

pulsory arbitration would be asked for and if the League challenged their right to this course, players would strike to bring the matter to a test. — Reuters.

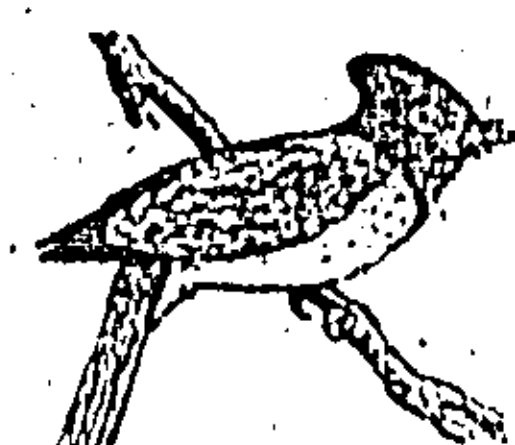
EMERGENCY RULING

Glasgow, Feb. 24.
In order to meet the Government's request to avoid mid-week football whenever possible, the Scottish Football Association and the Scottish League to-day decided for the first time in the history of Scottish football to introduce rules ensuring the finality of one game.

All Cup ties until the end of the season will play an extra 20 minutes if the scores are level after 90 minutes. If the scores are still level, play will continue ten minutes each way until the scoring of a goal terminates the match.

SCOTTISH CUP DRAW

The draw for the Scottish Football Association Cup fourth round, to be played on March 15: Dundee v. Aberdeen or Morton; Arbroath v. Hearts or Cowdenbeath; Rangers or Hibernians v. Dumbarton; East Fife v. Falkirk or Motherwell. — Reuters.

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ZBW on 845 kilocycles from 12.20 to 2 p.m., and 6.20 to 11 p.m., and also on 9.52 megacycles, in the 31 metre band from 12.20 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9 to 11 p.m.

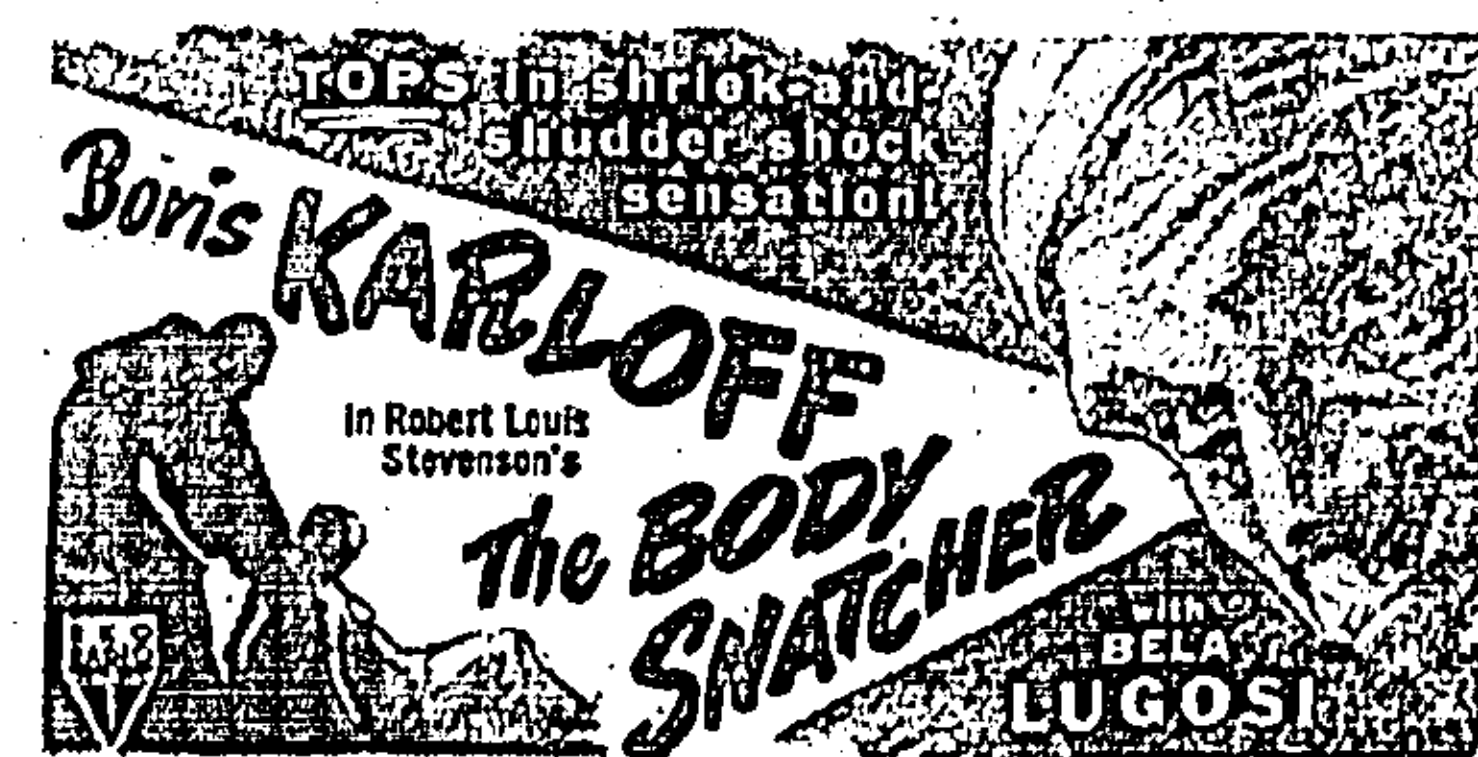
9.30 Tunes of Noi-Song-Lang: 7 London Relay; World News; 7.10 London Relay; Home News from Britain; 7.15 Studio: Liza Hestall by Michael Boder (Piano) (By Courtesy of the Parlatan Grill); 7.35 Symphony Concert by the BBC Symphony Orchestra; 8.15 London Transmission Service: "They Loved to Tell the Tale," "Six Men in Darkness," 8.30 Nelson Eddy, (Harrison), & Boston Promenade Orchestra; 9 London Relay; News; 9.10 Studio: "Radio Magazine," Compiled by Robert Shaw; 9.55 London Transmission Service: "George Melachrino & His Orch.: 10.20 "Cabaret"—Dance Music and Variety; 11 Close down.

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